Homegrown Minneapolis Food Council Minutes Wednesday, October 16, 2013 Youthlink Conference Room – 41 North 12th Street, Minneapolis 3:00 – 5:00 pm

Attendance: Katie Lampi, Erica Prosser, Alison Rotel, Kurt Schreck, Kris Igo, Russ Henry, Julie Ristau, Tracy Singleton, Bob Lind, Rhys Williams, Patty Bowler, Rebecca Reed, Aaron Reser, Eric Larsen, Gayle Prest, Mustafa Sundiata, Sara Nelson-Pallmeyer

Others in Attendance: Jane Shey (Homegrown Minneapolis Consultant), Vish Vasani (Prevention Specialist), Charley Underwood (Minneapolis Tree Commission), Meghan O'Hara, Pa Vang, Robin Garwood

Absent: Beth Dooley, Neil Oxendale, Cam Gordon, Deborah Ramos

There was a 2:30pm tour of YouthLink.

1. **Meeting Called to Order**: Co-Chair Mustafa called the meeting to order. Introductions were made. Kris Igo moved to approve the September meeting minutes, seconded by Eric Larsen, and passed unanimously.

2. Food Council Work Group updates and activities:

- Land Access and Urban Agriculture Work Group (LAUA): This workgroup had a meeting on October 9 at Sabathani which 19 people attended. Sam Grant and Emily Goellner presented on a North Minneapolis urban ag mapping project conducted by Emily on behalf of AfroEco, with support from CURA (Center for Urban and Regional Affairs). The City recently released an additional 29 lots in North Minneapolis that will be available for community gardens. LAUA is discussing options and recommendations on how to possibly open these lots for urban farmers if they are not used for community gardens after a certain time period. The working group is seeking a Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department liaison. The working group started a community on the Healthy Eating Minnesota Network website http://www.healthyeatingmn.org/group/laua which will be used to post agendas, meeting notes, and continue the work between meetings. The next meeting will be a potluck on Tuesday November 12 at East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center.
- <u>Food Council Community Engagement Work Group</u>: The last meeting was October 2 and six persons in addition to Kris Igo, Jane Shey and Aaron Reser attend to learn more about the group. Food Council 2014/2015 applications are due Friday October 18.
- 3. Action on Support for Revising State Regulation on Farmers Markets: Katie Lampie provided background and reviewed the draft Statement of Support which focused on two primary issues: elimination of state rules requiring pressurized hand sinks at farmers markets and the elimination of state rules that limit seasonal vendors to 21 days. The Minneapolis Farmers Market Managers support

these changes. The state is also organizing comment sessions and Jane Shey has organized individuals to testify in favor of these changes. After further discussion, Aaron Reser made a motion, seconded by Julie Ristau to support the draft with the addition of an introductory sentence and it was passed unanimously.

During this time, Mustafa Sundiata left the meeting and Kris Igo continued as Chair of the meeting.

- 4. Action on draft revised Food Council by-laws: This was a continuation of the review of Food Council by-laws from previous meetings. Jane Shey provided background on the by-laws and the four new revisions. Motion to approve changes to Section 3: Duties and Membership was approved unanimously. Motion to approve changes to Section 7: Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces, specifically the definition of a Task Force, was approved unanimously. Motion to approve changes to Section 4: Co-Chairs and Executive Committee, but deleting the word "which" and spelling out the Food Council was approved unanimously. Motion to approve changes to Section 6: Meetings, Part E, but deleting the last two sentences "A quorum of members must respond for the vote to be valid, and the decision will go the majority of votes cast. All decisions made by email vote must be ratified at the next regular meeting and recorded in the minutes." was approved unanimously. Alison was recognized for her work in initially drafting suggested changes to the by-laws.
- 5. **December 5, Open House Update:** Open House Planning Task Force consists of Alison Rotel, Aaron Reser, Russ Henry, Erica Prosser, Beth Dooley, Katie Lampi, Tracy Singleton, Julie Ristau, Kurt Schreck, and Rhys Williams. The Open House Task Force will meet for 30 minutes after the meeting. The Open House will take place at the Walker Art Center and include informational tables, light snacks and beverages, youth activities and a very short presentation announcing awards, 2013 highlights and new 2014/2015 Food Council members.
- 6. **Food Day October 24 Update:** Council Member Cam Gordon will offer a City Council Resolution in support of Food Day at the October 18 City Council meeting. Mayor Rybak and Minneapolis Public Schools are issuing a joint press release and there will be a press event on October 24 at 11:00am at Howe Elementary School. Food Council members are welcome to attend. Food Council members are also asked to help publicize the press event and the "Pledge to Eat Together" with family or loved ones on Food Day campaign.

7. Member Updates:

- September 27: Urban Ag. Bus Tour was a success
- October 23, 7:00pm: Mayoral Forum on Urban Agriculture at Sabathani: Flyers in English,
 Spanish and Hmong were distributed. Approximately five candidates are confirmed to attend
 the forum. If you are interested in helping plan this forum, contact Russ Henry.
 http://www.gardeningmatters.org/mayoral-forum-urban-agriculture
- October 17 and October 25: Gardening Matters will be hosting fall gatherings (10/17 at MLK Recreation Center, 6-8pm and 10/25 at St. Olaf Community Campus, 6-8pm), which will highlight the Local Food Resource Hubs. http://www.gardeningmatters.org/

- November 6: St. Paul will hold an informal public hearing on their proposed urban ag policy.
- The State is reviewing the option of a statewide food policy council. The group decided that they will explore the statewide food policy council and its implications during future meetings.
- The City requires restaurants to generate 60 percent of their sales from food (versus alcohol). The City is considering changing this to an even split. The Food Council may want to weigh in on this proposed change.
- Guest announcement: Charley announced that the Minneapolis Tree Advisory Committee meeting on November 14 will include an expert from University of Minnesota talking about linkages between pollinators and chemicals treating emerald ash borer. Meeting starts at 6:00pm at MPRB headquarters. This meeting will be open to the public.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00